

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MARTIN 00188 061437Z

53

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EUR-12 ARAE-00 PM-03 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

/044 W

----- 038238

O 061200Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1892

COMCARIBSEAFRON ROOSEVELT ROADS PR IMMEDIATE

RUFJCX /AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE 001

CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

UNCLAS MARTINIQUE 0188

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MR, GB, MASS, RQ

SUBJECT: GABON PATROL BOAT REPAIR

STATE PLEASE PASS DOD/ISA WASHDC IMMEDIATE AND JCS /WASHDC IMMEDIATE

1. IN LATE AFTERNOON MAY 5 GENERAL BA OUMAR, GABONESE CHIEF OF ARMY AND NAVAL FORCES, CALLED UPON ME WITH REQUEST THAT FOLLOWING MATTER BE PASSED URGENTLY TO DEPARTMENT AND DOD HE EMPHASIZED HE WAS ACTING UPON RECEIPT OF SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS PRESIDENT WITH WHOM HE WAS IN CONTACT EARLIER IN DAY.

2. BA OUMAR SAID THE GABONESE NAVAL PATROL VESSEL N GUENE NOW VISITING FORT-DE-FRANCE, WHICH WAS BUILT BY SWIFT SHIP INC, MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA, FOLLOWING CONTRACT SIGNED BY GABONESE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT OF COMPANY, IS NOW UNABLE TO PROCEED TO LIBREVILLE BECAUSE OF FAILURE OF ONE ENGINE. THE ENGINE, A GMC 16 CYLINDER MARINE TYPE, IS INOPERATIVE. GOG HAS WRITTEN GUARANTEES COVERING BOAT AND MOTOR. PROBLEM IS THAT THE BRIDGE, WHICH IS WELDED TO HULL, MUST BE LIFTED TO REPAIR FAULTY ENGINE, AND THIS WORK CANNOT BE DONE IN MARTINIQUE OR IN ANY NEARBY ISLAND. FACTS THAT GUARANTEE ONLY OPERATIVE IF REPAIR PERFORMED BY GMC TECHREPS AND THAT BRIDGE MUST BE LIFTED, UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MARTIN 00188 061437Z

LED GABONESE GOVERNMENT TO DECIDE TO REQUEST USG TO USE ROOSEVELT

ROADS REPAIR FACILITIES ON URGENT BASIS. BA OUMAR SAID THAT ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS OF GABONESE PRESIDENT, THE N GUENE WILL DEPART FORT-DE-FRANCE ABOUT 0800 MAY 7 TO ARRIVE ROOSEVELT ROADS ABOUT 1100 MAY 8 UNLESS USG REFUSES TO PERMIT VESSEL TO USE US NAVY REPAIR FACILITIES THERE. N GUENE CAPTAIN ELIE-LEFEBURE EXPLAINED THAT LACK OF ONE ENGINE MAKES TRIP PRECARIOUS AND HE HOPES TO AVOID AT ALL COSTS RETURN VOYAGE TO MARTINIQUE IF USG TURNS DOWN REQUEST TO USE RR FACILITIES.

3. BA OUMAR THEN RAISED SEPARATE TOPIC, AGAIN HE SAID, UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS PRESIDENT. IN VIEW OF PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH N GUENE S VOYAGE HERE AND ENGINE FAILURE, GOG IS REQUESTING A US NAVY ESCORT VESSEL FOR TRIP BETWEEN BRAZIL AND LIBREVILLE. BA OUMAR SAID HE WILL RAISE MATTER AGAIN SEPARATELY WITH EMBASSY LIBREVILLE BUT HE WANTED TO PLACE MATTER BEFORE USG NOW. GOG, IT APPEARS , NOW IS MUCH CONCERNED WITH ATLANTIC CROSSING AND WANTS ADDITIONAL ASSURANCE WHICH USN ESCORT WILL PROVIDE.

4. IN RESPONSE TO FOREGOING I SAID I WOULD BRING MATTER TO ATTENTION STATE/DOD SOONEST WITH REQUEST THAT USG REPLY REGARDING REQUEST FOR USE OF ROOSEVELT ROADS FACILITIES BE HERE PRIOR 0800 MAY 7 WHEN CAPTAIN PLANS DEPARTURE.

5. AS FINAL POINT CAPTAIN SAID HE HAS NO MAPS OR CHARTS OF RR HARBOR. TO ASSURE SAFE ENTRY HE ASKED US TO OBTAIN FREQUENCIES USED AT RR FOR SHIP TRAFFIC. N GUENE HAS ALL SSB FREQUENCIES AND VHF SHIP TO SHIP FREQUENCIES.

6. COMMENT, WHILE I AM UNFAMILIAR WITH GOG PURCHASE OF THE VESSEL IN US, OR ITS PLANS FOR USING IT, IT WAS CLEAR FROM BA OUMAR THAT HIS GOVERNMENT ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO REPAIR REQUEST AS WELL AS ESCORT REQUEST.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: FOR STATE: PLEASE ADVISE PRIOR 0800 MAY7 IF POSSIBLE.

8. FOR COMCARIBSEAFRON: PLEASE ADVISE SSB AND VHF FREQUENCIES RE PARA 5 ABOVE.

9. IN VIEW OF TIME PROBLEM PRIOR ETD VESSEL FROM MARTINIQUE, WILL APPRECIATE CLEAR TEXT RESPONSE.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MARTIN 00188 061437Z

SHACKLETON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, NAVAL SHIPS, MARINE ENGINES, REPAIR SHOPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MARTIN00188
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750158-0532
From: MARTINIQUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750578/aaaacszu.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 24 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 SEP 2003 by buchantr>; APPROVED <20 JAN 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GABON PATROL BOAT REPAIR STATE PLEASE PASS DOD/ISA WASHDC IMMEDIATE AND JCS /WASHDC IMMEDIATE
TAGS: MASS, MR, GB, RQ, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006